

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~property sheet~~ system comprising:

a configuration module representing configuration information of a node within a clustered system, the configuration module comprising any one of a binary file, the binary file to map a key name to a set of data, a sub-configuration entry comprising an object of the node, or a name-value pair, the name-value pair to map a key name to an object, and a property sheet data structure representing configuration information associated with at least one component within a the clustered system including a plurality of property names, a plurality of non-modifiable parameters and a plurality of modifiable parameters, wherein each respective property name included in the property sheet data structure is associated with a non-modifiable parameter and optionally a modifiable parameter; and

a user interface to display contents of the property sheet data structure to allow centralized management of the clustered system, the user interface to receive inputs to select and modify a parameter associated with the property sheet data structure.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~property sheet~~ system of claim 1, wherein the property sheet data structure is associated with a plurality of components contained within the clustered system.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~property sheet~~ system of claim 1, wherein the user interface comprises:

a first dialog box to display contents of the property sheet data structure, the first dialog box including a plurality of entry rows, the entry rows including a first column to display names of corresponding properties, a second column to display configuration parameters associated with the corresponding properties and a third column to indicate if the configuration parameters are default or custom parameters; and

a second dialog box to receive input to modify a custom parameter.

4. (Currently Amended) The property sheet system of claim 3, wherein the second dialog box further includes a name field to display a name of a corresponding property and a default field to display a default configuration parameter associated with the corresponding property.
5. (Currently Amended) The property sheet system of claim 4, wherein the second dialog box further includes a data type field to display the data type associated with corresponding property.
6. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 - providing a property sheet associated with a component contained within a clustered system, the property sheet including a plurality of configuration parameters, each parameter associated with a name, a default parameter and ~~optionally~~ a custom parameter;
 - ~~changing replacing~~ the component contained within the clustered system; and
 - automatically updating the default parameters included in the property sheet with a different default parameter with a corresponding property of a replacement component in response to ~~changing replacing~~ the component.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
 - determining if a custom parameter included in the property sheet is valid with the ~~changed replaced~~ component.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, further comprising:
 - deselecting the custom parameter if the custom parameter is not valid with the ~~changed replaced~~ component.
10. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the cluster includes a plurality of instances.
- 11-15. (Cancelled)
16. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

providing a configuration module of a node contained within a cluster, the configuration module comprising any one of a binary file, a sub-configuration entry, or a name-value pair, and a property sheet containing configuration information associated with a component contained within a cluster;

displaying contents of the property sheet, the property sheet including non-modifiable parameters and modifiable parameters; and

receiving input to select and modify a parameter of the displayed property sheet.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the displaying contents of a property sheet comprises:

providing a number of entry rows;

displaying names of corresponding properties in a first column of each entry row;

displaying configuration parameters associated with corresponding properties in a second column of each entry row; and

indicating if a configuration parameter displayed in the second column is a default parameter or a custom parameter.

18. (Original) The method of the claim 16, wherein the property sheet is included in a configuration data structure containing configuration information associated with the cluster.

19. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

means for displaying contents of a property sheet containing configuration information associated with a component contained within a clustered system, the property sheet having a plurality of properties, wherein each of said properties is associated with a property name, a non-modifiable default parameter and optionally a custom parameter; and

means for receiving input to select and modify a parameter associated with a property included in the property sheet; and

means for selectively updating the parameters included in the property sheet in response to replacing a component.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19, further comprising:
means for receiving input to select between the default parameter and the custom parameter to be applied to a property included in the property sheet.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the means for displaying further comprises:
means for indicating if a configuration parameter displayed by the means for displaying is a default parameter or a custom parameter.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~22~~ 19, further comprising:
means for automatically updating a default parameter included in the property sheet with a different default parameter associated with a corresponding property of the ~~changed~~ replaced component.

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~22~~ 19, further comprising:
means for determining if a custom parameter included in the property sheet is valid with the ~~changed~~ replaced component.

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~22~~ 19, further comprising:
means for deselecting a custom parameter if the custom parameter is not valid with the ~~changed~~ replaced component.

26. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed by a processor cause the processor to perform operations comprising:
displaying contents of a property sheet data structure representing configuration information associated with at least one component within a clustered system, the property sheet data structure including a plurality of property names, a plurality of non-modifiable default parameters and a plurality of custom parameters;
receiving input to select a custom parameter included in the property sheet data structure;
receiving input to modify the selected custom parameter; and

storing the modified custom parameter without changing a default parameter corresponding to the modified custom parameter; and

selectively updating the parameters included in the property sheet data structure in response to replacing of a component.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 27 26, wherein the operations performed by the processor further comprise:

automatically updating a default parameter included in the property sheet data structure with a different default parameter associated with a corresponding property of the changed replaced component;

determining if a custom parameter included in the property sheet data structure is valid with the changed replaced component; and

deselecting an applied custom parameter if the applied custom parameter is not valid with the changed replaced component.

29. (New) A system comprising:

a central storage node, the central storage node including a configuration data structure, the configuration data structure comprising a global configuration module and a sub-cluster configuration module.

30. (New) The system of claim 29, further comprising:

the global configuration module comprising a dispatcher configuration module and a server configuration module.

31. (New) The system of claim 29, further comprising:

the sub-cluster configuration module comprising a local configuration information associated with a sub-cluster, the local configuration information comprising a dispatcher module

and a plurality of server modules, the dispatcher module including configuration information associated with a dispatcher node of the sub-cluster, and each of the plurality of server modules including configuration information associated with each server node of the sub-cluster.